## Georgia House of Representatives



# DAILY REPORT

38th Legislative Day

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

House Budget & Research Office (404) 656-5050

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- The House will reconvene for its 39th Legislative Day on Tuesday, March 22 at 10:00 a.m.
- 15 bills / resolutions are expected to be debated on the floor.

## **Today on the Floor**

## **Motions to Agree**

## HB 52 Child custody; require parenting plans to be incorporated into final orders; change provisions

<u>Bill Summary</u>: This bill clarifies language regarding parenting plans involving child custody. The bill adds to the court's discretion by giving the court the ability to waive the requirement for a parenting plan in the court's final decree in legal action involving the custody of a child.

Authored By: Rep. Regina Quick (117th) Rule Applied: Modified-Open

**Motions to Agree:** (A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)

## HB 509 Georgia Palliative Care and Quality of Life Advisory Council; create; provisions

<u>Bill Summary</u>: HB 509 creates the Georgia Palliative Care and Quality of Life Advisory Council within the Department of Community Health. The commissioner of the Department of Community Health will appoint nine members to the council. Additionally, this bill establishes a state-wide Palliative Care Consumer and Professional Information and Education Program within the department. The purpose of this program is to maximize the effectiveness of palliative care initiatives in Georgia by ensuring that comprehensive and accurate information and education about palliative care is available to the public, health care providers, and health care facilities.

**Authored By:** Rep. Jesse Petrea (166th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured

**Motions to Agree:** (A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)

## HB 757 Domestic relations; religious officials shall not be required to perform marriage ceremonies in violation of their legal right; provide

<u>Bill Summary</u>: The Free Exercise Protection Act, as revised by the House and Senate, provides ministerial and individual protections against infringement on religious exercise balanced with protecting individuals from invidious discrimination (which is discrimination that is offensive or objectionable, especially because it involves prejudice or stereotyping or otherwise treats a class of persons unequally in a manner that is irrational, malicious, hostile, or damaging).

This Act adds O.C.G.A. 19-3-11, relating to marriage generally, by providing certain ministerial protections. Specifically, clergy ordained or authorized to solemnize marriages, according to the usages of his or her denomination and acting in an official religious capacity, shall not be required to solemnize any marriage in violation of his or her right to free exercise of religion under the United States or Georgia Constitutions. A refusal by such clergy shall not give rise to a cause of action, alter in any way state tax treatment, cause any tax or penalty or payment to be assessed against such faith based organization, or otherwise disallow charitable deductions for state tax purposes.

The Act amends 10-1-573, relating to day of rest for employees of business and industry, to prohibit any business or industry from being compelled to work on either of the two rest days (Saturday or Sunday) by ordinance or resolution of any county, municipality, or consolidated government.

Additionally, Title 10, relating to commerce and trade, is amended to provide certain protections for faith based or religious organizations (which includes religious clergy, religious schools, or non-profit corporations). Under this Act faith based organizations will not be required to rent, lease, or otherwise grant permission for property to be used by another person for purposes which are objectionable to such religious organization; nor shall such faith based organizations be required to provide social, educational, or charitable services that violate that faith based organization's sincerely held religious beliefs as demonstrated by practice, expression or clearly articulated tenet of faith. Additionally, under Title 34, relating to labor and industrial relations generally, faith based organizations will not be required to hire persons whose religious belief or practices or lack of either are not in accord with the faith based organization's sincerely held religious beliefs as demonstrated by practice, expression or clearly articulated tenet of faith.

The Act further provides that a refusal by such faith based organizations under Title 10 or Title 34, as discussed above, shall not give rise to a cause of action, alter in any way state tax treatment, cause any tax or penalty or payment to be assessed against such faith based organization, or otherwise disallow charitable deductions for state tax purposes. The above code sections will also provide faith based organizations grounds for a claim or defense in any judicial, agency or other proceeding to obtain a declaratory judgment or injunctive relief as well as in some instances reasonable court costs and attorney's fees. A 30 day ante litem notice is required to be given to the government when brining such suits against the government.

Under Title 50, relating to State Government, the Act provides guidelines on when the government may regulate religious exercise. The government may only burden a person's exercise of religion by a generally applicable law, rule, regulation, ordinance, or resolution, where the government demonstrates that application of the burden to the person is in furtherance of a compelling governmental interest and is the least restrictive means of achieving that interest. Nothing, in this provision prevents local ordinances with antidiscrimination provisions from existing so long as those ordinances meet the above test. The Act allows a person aggrieved by a violation of the above provision to seek a declaratory judgment action or injunctive relief against the government, as well as in some instances reasonable court costs and attorney's fees. A 30-day ante litem notice is required to be given to the government when bringing such suits against the government.

Additionally, 50-15A-5 is added, which provides that persons may act in accordance with their religious beliefs, as allowed under the Georgia Constitution and consistent with decisions of the Georgia Supreme Court. However, a person's right to exercise religious freedom, which may be manifested in acts, ceases where such actions would constitute invidious discrimination (i.e. discrimination that is offensive or objectionable, especially because it involves prejudice or stereotyping or otherwise treats a class of persons unequally in a manner that is irrational, malicious, hostile, or damaging). These protections are not to be construed as applying to penological rules, regulation, conditions, or policies established by penal institutions that are reasonably related to the safety and security of incarcerated persons, staff, visitors, or otherwise for the maintenance of good order at the penal institution or parole or probation program. Nor is this chapter to be construed as either giving rights to an employee against an employer that is not a government, or to provide any relief or protection to a public officer who fails or refuses to perform his or her official duties.

Accordingly, 50-21-38 is added whereby the state expressly waives sovereign immunity as to any claim, counterclaim, cross-claim, or third-party claim brought in the courts of this state by an aggrieved individual or faith based organization seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, or reasonable attorney's fees and court costs against the state.

Authored By: Rep. Kevin Tanner (9th) Rule Applied: Structured

Motions to Agree: This Motion to Agree to the Senate Substitute as Amended by the House, sends this bill back to the Senate for consideration.

## HB 1011 Cobb County; chief deputy, assistant chief deputy, and executive assistant to the sheriff; change compensation

<u>Bill Summary</u>: A Bill to amend an Act changing the compensation of the clerk of the superior court, the sheriff, and the judge of the Probate Court of Cobb County, so as to change the compensation of the chief deputy, the assistant chief deputy, and the executive assistant to the sheriff.

**Authored By:** Rep. John Carson (46th) **Rule Applied: Motions to Agree:** (*A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.*)

## **Motions to Disagree**

## HB 768 Handicapped persons; ABLE program establishment to use tax exempt accounts to pay for qualified expenses of eligible individuals with disabilities; provisions

Bill Summary: This legislation establishes the Georgia Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Program, which is modeled after education savings plans under Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code. The bill allows disabled individuals to save private funds in tax-exempt accounts to pay for qualified disability expenses without becoming ineligible for Medicaid by possessing over \$2,000 in assets. The governing corporation will have a board of directors consisting of the: commissioner of the Department of Community Health, commissioner of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, state auditor, state treasurer, and three members appointed by the governor. Georgia may also participate jointly with other states with ABLE programs to raise the necessary assets required to fund the program.

**Authored By:** Rep. Lee Hawkins (27th) **Rule Applied:** Structured **Motions to Disagree:** (A motion to disagree sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)

## **Rules Calendar**

## HR 1253 Local boards of education; instruction on dugout safety to youth athletes participating in baseball; encourage

<u>Bill Summary</u>: House Resolution 1253 encourages local athletic entities to render instruction on dugout safety to youth athletes participating in the sport of baseball and to construct protective dugout coverings.

Authored By:Rep. Dexter Sharper (177th)Rule Applied:Modified-OpenHouse Committee:EducationCommittee<br/>Action:03-09-2016Do Pass

Floor Vote: Yeas: 145 Nays: 19 Amendments:

### HR 1342 Education; school children; request more recess time

Bill Summary: House Resolution 1342 requests more recess time for school children.

Authored By:Rep. Demetrius Douglas (78th)Rule Applied:Modified-OpenHouse Committee:EducationCommittee03-09-2016 Do PassAction:

Floor Vote: Yeas: 171 Nays: 3 Amendments:

## HR 1343 United States Environmental Protection Agency; withdraw the proposed Waters of the United States Clean Water Plan rule; encourage

<u>Bill Summary</u>: HR 1343 encourages the United States Environmental Protection Agency to immediately withdraw the proposed Waters of the United States Clean Water Plan rule, supports the comments on the Clean Water Plan rule submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency by the State of Georgia, urges Congress and the President to enact legislation to prohibit the Clean Water Plan rule from taking effect unless and until any and all legal challenges to the Clean Water Plan rule have been fully resolved and no appeals remain, and supports the Joint Resolution resolved by Congress on January 4, 2016: "That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Corps of

Today on the Floor

Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Clean Water Rule: Definition of 'Waters of the United States' (80 Fed. Reg. 37054; June 29, 2015), and such rule shall have no force or effect."

**Authored By:** Rep. Tom McCall (33rd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured

**House Committee:** Natural Resources & Environment Committee 03-10-2016 Do Pass by Committee Action: Substitute

Floor Vote: Yeas: 149 Nays: 21 **Amendments:** 

## HR 1382 Community Health, Department of; create and seek the counsel of a State Health Benefit Plan **Customer Advisory Council; encourage**

Bill Summary: HR 1382 encourages the Department of Community Health to create and seek the counsel of a State Health Benefit Plan Customer Advisory Council.

Rep. Debbie Buckner (137th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open House Committee: Health & Human Services Committee 03-10-2016 Do Pass

Action: Floor Vote: Yeas: 155 Nays: 14 **Amendments:** 

#### **SB 85** Development Authorities; revise the definition of projects as applicable; modify the tax exemption

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 85 provides that an individual appointed to state and local authorities, boards, councils, and commissions shall be a United States citizen, or a natural or lawful permanent resident.

**Authored By:** Sen. Brandon Beach (21st) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured

House Committee: Governmental Affairs Committee 03-15-2016 Do Pass by Committee

Action: Substitute

Floor Vote: Yeas: 94 Nays: 62 **Amendments:** 

#### **SB 208** Stonecrest, City of; provide for a charter

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 208 authorizes a referendum to create the city of Stonecrest in DeKalb County, Georgia.

**Authored By:** Sen. Ronald Ramsey, Sr. (43rd) Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Committee House Committee: Governmental Affairs 03-09-2016 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Action: Floor Vote: Yeas: 144 Nays: 17 **Amendments:** 

#### SB 243 Georgia Judicial Retirement System; preservation of rights by certain persons; change certain provisions

Bill Summary: SB 243 amends O.C.G.A. 47-23-43, 47-23-43.1, and 47-23-100 relating to membership in the Georgia Judicial Retirement System (JRS). This bill allows any full-time employee serving as legislative counsel, with admission into the State Bar of Georgia, to make an irrevocable decision to become a member of JRS. Eligible individuals wishing to become a member of the JRS must notify the board no later than December 31, 2016 or within 90 days of employment, whichever date is later. The Employee's Retirement System (ERS) would then be required to transfer all employee and employer contributions, plus interest, to JRS. Also, members would receive creditable service for actual years of service as a member of ERS. This bill has been certified by the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts as a fiscal retirement bill.

**Authored By:** Sen. Jack Hill (4th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open House Committee: Retirement Committee 02-03-2016 Do Pass

Action: Floor Vote: Yeas: 96 Nays: 65 Amendments:

## SB 307 Public Roads; provide for definitions relative to advertising

Bill Summary: SB 307 allows for multimedia messages at bus shelters. These messages are authorized as long as they comply with existing operational standards for multiple message signs; however, these messages will not be required to comply with spacing standards set in the same Code section. The bill also provides for an annual permit which allows towing service providers to operate on the interstate systems in Georgia. Permits are to be issued by the Department of Public Safety after the applicant has completed an operator safety course that meets or exceeds minimum standards recognized and adopted by the Towing and Recovery Incentive Program and has submitted the annual \$85 permit fee. Those found violating this Code section are guilty of a misdemeanor. This statute relating to tow permits has a sunset date of January 1, 2021.

Authored By: Sen. Brandon Beach (21st) Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

**House Committee:** Transportation Committee 03-14-2016 Do Pass by Committee

**Action:** Substitute

Floor Vote: Yeas: 143 Nays: 17 Amendments:

## SB 331 Courts; causing a child to be conceived; violating certain prohibitions relating certain offenses; additional ground for terminating parental rights

<u>Bill Summary</u>: Senate Bill 331 allows the termination of a father's parental rights when, by clear and convincing evidence, the father caused his child to be conceived as a result of non-consensual sexual contact. For purposes of legitimation proceedings, there shall be a presumption against legitimation where the court finds that the father caused his child to be conceived in such a manner. Such fathers shall also be barred from inheriting from a child so conceived; however, a child conceived as a result on non-consensual sex may still inherit from the father.

**Authored By:** Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured

House Committee: Judiciary

Committee
Action:

03-08-2016 Do Pass by Committee
Substitute

Floor Vote: Yeas: 169 Nays: 1 Amendments: AM 29 2541

## SB 367 Georgia Council Justice Reform; provide for comprehensive reform

<u>Bill Summary</u>: SB 367 expands accountability courts by authorizing "operating under the influence" court divisions. Any court with jurisdiction over DUI or boating under the influence cases may establish a division of their courts designated to handle those cases and provide an alternative to the traditional justice system with the goal of reducing recidivism. Each court must establish a planning group, comprised of judges, prosecuting attorneys, public defenders, and other court officials, to establish a "work plan," which will govern the operations of the division based on the state standards and local needs.

Guidelines for these divisions will be established by the Council of Accountability Court Judges based on the findings of the National Drug Court Institute and other developments in the accountability court field. State funding for local "operating under the influence courts" is contingent on approval of the court's procedures. The Council of Accountability Court Judges will be responsible for assisting, certifying, and monitoring local divisions.

Using the same structure as "operating under the influence courts," juvenile courts are authorized to create a "family treatment court division" to address dependency issues within families through court intervention and the reduction of dependency.

The adjudicating judge may restrict access to the criminal records of individuals placed into accountability court programs. These records must be preserved and the restriction may be removed at any time.

SB 367 allows for the Department of Corrections and the Department of Juvenile Justice to contract with private entities for the operation of charter schools to provide education for incarcerated children. These schools will be subject to the contract authorizing them and under the control of the State Charter Schools Commission.

The bill establishes standards for school discipline. The State Board of Education will establish minimum qualifications and standards for officials conducting disciplinary hearings. All local boards of education must develop a system of progressive discipline to be imposed on students who are accused of disrupting the operation of a public school prior to filing a "complaint" with the juvenile court. Once the remedies provided by the school board have been exhausted, the local board may file the complaint. The complaint must show that the system sought to handle the case on its own by engaging the child's parents, and evaluating his/her disability status, and reviewing his/her individual education plan.

SB 367 also addresses the return of driver's licenses to individuals who have had their license suspended as a result of, or in conjunction with, a criminal conviction. The section provides a paupers' provision to allow those who cannot afford the reinstatement fee to receive their license without paying the suspension penalty. Moreover, the bill allows for time served in prison to count toward the period of revocation for licenses. It also adds court-mandated activities relating to sentences, such as attending programs, treatment and accountability court, to the list of activities allowed for drivers with limited driving permits.

The Department of Community Supervision (DCS) replaces the Governor's Office of Transition, Support, and Re-entry. The Board of Community Supervision will establish general policy for the DCS. The powers and duties of the probation division of the Department of Corrections, the probationary function of the Department of Juvenile Justice, and the State Board of Pardons and Paroles will now fall under the DCS. The DCS is tasked with coordinating successful re-entry of criminal offenders in this state in an effort to curb recidivism and enhance public safety.

SB 367 alters provisions of the Georgia First Offender Statute by allowing the court to set a date on which the defendant will be exonerated of guilt by successfully complying with the court's sentencing order and allowing the court to restrict access to those criminal records. Violations of the court's conditions, subsequent convictions, or determinations that the individual was not eligible for first offender status will allow the court to re-instate the adjudication of guilt and sentence the defendant. Discharges under this section will entitle defendants to have their records restricted from dissemination by the Georgia Crime Information Center after their conditions are completed to law enforcement agencies or other limited purposes. These restrictions do not apply to individuals applying for employment in education, child service organizations, elderly care, or with persons who are mentally ill. It also does not prevent registry on sex offender lists.

The bill adjusts provisions related to the revocation of probation for individuals because they have failed to pay their fines or failure to report to their probation officer. For the failure to pay a fine, an arrest warrant will be issued and the probationer will be scheduled for a hearing on the court's next calendar. Prior to the issuing of an arrest warrant for failure to report, the probation officer must present an affidavit to the court detailing their efforts to contact the probationer.

In addition, the probation officer must terminate pay-only probation within 30 days of the full payment of the probationer's fines and statutory charges. A court may also discharge probation when he determines it is in the best interests of justice. In misdemeanor probation cases where there are consecutive sentences, the court may terminate probation after 12 months when the probationer has completed all required testing and rehabilitation and paid all fines.

The bill allows for inmates serving sentences of at least six years for certain drug-related offenses, or under the repeat offender statute for non-violent felonies, who meet the qualifications of the statute to be eligible for parole consideration. The main qualifications include: no convictions for violent felonies; completion of at least six years of the total sentence; a low risk rating for recidivism; achievement of a high school diploma, and no serious disciplinary infractions in the last 12 months of incarceration. Moreover, those who have been convicted of a felony drug conviction will now be allowed to apply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits upon their release from imprisonment.

SB 367 provides that no professional licensing board may automatically refuse to grant a license

because of an arrest or conviction of a felony unless that felony directly relates to the occupation for which the license exists. The determination for whether the license is related to the occupation must evaluate: the seriousness of the felony; the relationship between the occupation and the felony; the age of the person when they committed the crime; the time elapsed since commission; circumstances of commission; rehabilitation performed, and present fitness to perform the duties of the profession.

Additionally, the bill requires the State Board of Juvenile Justice to govern the transfer of supervision of individuals who are 17 years old from the Department of Juvenile Justice to the DCS.

Action:

Substitute

Authored By: Sen. John Kennedy (18th) Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

**House Committee:** Judiciary Non-Civil **Committee** 03-14-2016 Do Pass by Committee

Floor Vote: Yeas: 166 Nays: 1 Amendments:

### SB 369 Fireworks; revise the standard of compliance from explosion to ignition; definitions

Bill Summary: SB 369 modifies the 'MARTA Act', known as the 'Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority Act of 1965'. The bill grants authority for the city of Atlanta to levy a retail sales tax of up to .50 percent, in .05 percent intervals, in addition to any tax which is currently authorized. This tax shall not count toward any local sales tax limitation. Before the additional tax is valid, a majority of qualified voters of the city must approve of the referendum. The city may elect to hold a referendum in 2016 or 2017, but before the referendum is held, the authority must submit a preliminary list of new rapid transit projects then submit a final list of rapid transit projects.

All proceeds derived from the additional tax must first be allocated for payment of the cost of rapid transit projects. Any excess proceeds shall be expended solely within and for the benefit of the city of Atlanta. Regarding a metropolitan county special district, the provisions shall only be applicable to special districts in which: a tax is currently being levied and collected pursuant to a local constitutional amendment for the purposes of a metropolitan area system of public transportation, and the law is enacted pursuant to such local constitutional amendment, and 80 percent or more of the geographic area of the special district is located in one or more qualified municipalities.

Upon the approval of a resolution where at least 60 percent of the population of the part of the metropolitan county special district, not within the boundaries of a metropolitan municipality special district, may for a limited period of time impose a transportation special purpose local option sales tax to be used only for transportation services. Regarding a metropolitan municipality special district, the provisions shall only be applicable to special districts in which: a tax is currently being levied and collected pursuant to a local constitutional amendment for the purposes of a metropolitan area system of public transportation, and the laws enacted pursuant to such local constitutional amendment; and such municipality contains within its boundaries 15 percent or more of the geographic area of a metropolitan county special district.

Upon the approval of a resolution by majority vote, a metropolitan municipality special district may, for a limited period of time, impose a transportation special purpose local option sales tax, the proceeds of which shall be used only for transportation purposes. Such resolutions shall describe: the specific transportation purposes to be funded; the approximate cost of such transportation projects; the maximum amount of time, not to exceed five years, that the tax will be levied, and include an expenditure of at least 30 percent of the estimated revenue from the tax on projects consistent with the state-wide strategic transportation plan. A tax levied pursuant to this part shall be exclusively administered and collected by the commissioner for the use and benefit of the county and qualified municipalities within the special district imposing the tax. Such taxes shall not apply to: the sale or use of any type of fuel used for off-road heavy-duty equipment, off-road farm or agricultural equipment, or locomotives; the sale or use of jet fuel by a qualifying airline at a qualifying airport; the sale or use of fuel for propulsion of motor vehicles on public highways; the sale or use of energy used in the manufacturing or processing of goods primarily for resale; the sale or use of motor fuel for public mass transit, or the purchase or lease of any motor vehicle.

**Authored By:** Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured

**House Committee:** Regulated Industries Committee 03-15-2016 Do Pass by Committee

**Action:** Substitute

Floor Vote: Yeas: 159 Nays: 4 Amendments: AM 34 0735: Jones Amendment

## SR 1027 Joint Music Economic Development Study Committee; create

<u>Bill Summary</u>: Senate Resolution 1027 creates the Joint Music Economic Development Study Committee to examine issues relating to the music industry and possible ways to develop it further.

**Authored By:** Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open

**House Committee:** Special Rules Committee 03-09-2016 Do Pass by Committee

**Action:** Substitute

Floor Vote: Yeas: 166 Nays: 5 Amendments:

### SR 1038 Joint Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Study Committee; create

<u>Bill Summary</u>: Senate Resolution 1038 creates the Joint Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Study Committee to examine ways infrastructure can be increased to support alternative fuel vehicles around the state.

**Authored By:** Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open

**House Committee:** Special Rules Committee 03-09-2016 Do Pass by Committee

**Action:** Substitute

Floor Vote: Yeas: 164 Nays: 0 Amendments:

## **Postponed Until Next Legislative Day**

## SR 954 Public Property; granting of nonexclusive easements for the construction, operation, and maintenance of facilities, utilities, roads; 16 counties

<u>Bill Summary</u>: SR 954 authorizes the granting of nonexclusive easements for the construction, operation, and maintenance of facilities, utilities, roads, and ingress and egress in, on, over, under, upon, across, or through property owned by the State of Georgia in the counties of Bartow, Bulloch, Carroll, Chatham, Columbia, Coweta, DeKalb, Emanuel, Gordon, Henry, Marion, Murray, Paulding, Sumter, Ware, and Whitfield.

Article 1 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company and assigns over approximately 1.7 acres under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of underground distribution lines and associated equipment to serve the new Natural Resources Building (TCSG-269) at Ogeechee Technical College in Bulloch County for \$10.

Article 2 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company and assigns over approximately 3.256 acres under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of underground distribution lines and associated equipment to serve structures at University of Georgia at the Wormsloe Historic Site in Chatham County for \$10.

Article 3 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company and assigns over approximately 0.1 of an acre under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of underground distribution lines and associated equipment to serve an outdoor electronic sign at Augusta Technical College in Columbia County for \$10.

Article 4 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company and assigns over approximately 0.04 of an acre under the custody of the Georgia Department of Defense for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of underground distribution lines and associated equipment to serve the new facilities at Decatur Armory in Dekalb County for \$10.

Article 5 grants an easement to Excelsior Electrical Membership Corporation and assigns over approximately 0.16 of an acre under the custody of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of distribution lines and associated equipment to serve new Group Shelters at George L. Smith State Park in Emanuel County for \$10.

Article 6 grants an easement to the Georgia Department of Transportation and assigns over approximately 0.12 of an acre over Western and Atlantic Railroad property under the custody of the

State Properties Commission for a road widening project and the construction and maintenance of a bridge on the South Calhoun Bypass from SR53 at CR13 East to SR53 at CR64 in Gordon County for \$10.

Article 7 grants an easement to Snapping Shoals Electrical Membership Corporation and assigns over approximately 1.51 acres under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of underground distribution lines and associated equipment to serve the new Henry County Campus (TCSG-248) of Southern Crescent Technical College for \$10.

Article 8 grants an easement to Flint Electrical Membership Corporation (Flint Energies) and assigns over approximately 0.03 of an acre under the custody of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of underground distribution lines and associated equipment to serve a new building at Chattahoochee Fall Line Wildlife Management Area in Marion County for \$10.

Article 9 grants an easement to the Georgia Department of Transportation and assigns over approximately 0.25 of an acre under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia for the construction of storm water drainage system and road improvement project at South Georgia Technical College in Sumter County for \$7,000.

Article 10 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company and assigns over approximately 0.3 of an acre under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of underground distribution lines and associated equipment to serve six new cabins at Laura S. Walker State Park in Ware County for \$10.

Article 11 grants an easement to Sabal Trail Transmission, LLC (Sabal) and assigns over approximately 0.03 of an acre under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of a natural gas pipeline, associated equipment and facilities under navigable waters of the State of Georgia in Brooks, Colquitt, Dougherty, Lowndes, and Stewart Counties for fair market value but not less than \$650.

Article 12 grants the following easements:

An easement to Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company (Transco) and assigns over approximately 0.69 of an acre under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of a natural gas pipeline, associated equipment under and over land and navigable waters of the State of Georgia in Bartow County for fair market value but not less than \$650;

An easement to Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company (Transco) and assigns over approximately 0.33 of an acre under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of a natural gas pipeline, associated equipment under and over land and navigable waters of the State of Georgia in Carroll and Coweta Counties for fair market value but not less than \$650;

An easement to Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company (Transco) and assigns over approximately 0.22 of an acre under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of a natural gas pipeline, associated equipment under and over land and navigable waters of the State of Georgia in Gordon County for fair market value but not less than \$650;

An easement to Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company (Transco) and assigns over approximately 0.26 of an acre under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of a natural gas pipeline, associated equipment under and over land and navigable waters of the State of Georgia in Murray County for fair market value but not less than \$650;

An easement to Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company (Transco) and assigns over approximately 1.1 of an acre under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of a natural gas pipeline, associated equipment under and over land and navigable waters of the State of Georgia in Murray and Whitefield Counties for fair market value but not less than \$650; and

An easement to Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company (Transco) or its successors and assigns over approximately 10.47 acres under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of a natural gas pipeline, associated equipment under and over land and navigable waters of the State of Georgia in Paulding County for fair market value but not less than \$650.

**Authored By:** Sen. Rick Jeffares (17th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured

## **Local Calendar**

## HB 1080 Fayette County; Magistrate Court; impose and collect county law library fees as part of court

<u>Bill Summary</u>: A Bill to impose and collect county law library fees as part of the court costs in the magistrate court.

**Authored By:** Rep. Matt Ramsey (72nd) **Rule Applied:** 

**House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Committee Local 03-15-2016 Do Pass Action:

Local Action:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 163 Nays: 0 Amendments:

## HB 1143 Cherokee County; provide for the employment of marshals

<u>Bill Summary</u>: A Bill to provide for the employment, qualifications, and powers of marshals by Cherokee County.

**Authored By:** Rep. Mandi Ballinger (23rd) **Rule Applied:** 

**House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - **Committee** 03-15-2016 Do Pass

Action:

Floor Vote: Yeas: 163 Nays: 0 Amendments:

### HB 1145 Troup County; State Court; judge and solicitor-general; change salaries

<u>Bill Summary</u>: A Bill to amend an Act creating the State Court of Troup County, so as to change the salaries of the judge of the state court and the solicitor-general of the state court.

**Authored By:** Rep. Randy Nix (69th) **Rule Applied:** 

**House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - **Committee** 03-15-2016 Do Pass

Local Action:

Floor Vote: Yeas: 163 Nays: 0 Amendments:

### HB 1146 DeKalb County; provide regulation of land use; provisions

<u>Bill Summary</u>: A Bill to amend an Act revising, superseding, and consolidating the laws relating to the governing authority of DeKalb County and creating a chairman and board of commissioners of said county, so as to provide for the regulation of land use.

**Authored By:** Rep. Dar'shun Kendrick (93rd) **Rule Applied:** 

**House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - **Committee** 03-15-2016 Do Pass

ocal Action:

Floor Vote: Yeas: 163 Nays: 0 Amendments:

## HB 1147 Byron Convention and Visitors Bureau Authority; staff; revise provisions

Bill Summary: A Bill to amend an Act to create the Byron Convention and Visitors Bureau Authority, so as to revise the provisions regarding staff of the authority.

**Authored By:** Rep. Robert Dickey (140th) **Rule Applied:** 

House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination -Committee 03-15-2016 Do Pass

Local **Action:** 

Floor Vote: Yeas: 163 Nays: 0 **Amendments:** 

#### **SB 343** Decatur, City of; provide for homestead exemption; independent school district; educational purposes

Bill Summary: This bill provides a homestead exemption from City of Decatur independent school district ad valorem taxes for educational purposes for five years in the full amount of the assessed value of the homestead for residents of that school district who are 65 years of age or older.

**Authored By:** Sen. Elena Parent (42nd) **Rule Applied:** 

House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination -Committee 03-07-2016 Do Pass Action:

Local

Floor Vote: Yeas: 155 Nays: 1 **Amendments:** 

#### **SB 377** "Newton County Community Improvement District Act"; provide for purpose; definitions; board to administer such district or districts

Bill Summary: A Bill to provide for the creation of one or more community improvement districts in Newton County.

**Authored By:** Sen. Rick Jeffares (17th) **Rule Applied:** 

House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination -Committee 03-15-2016 Do Pass as Amended

Local Action: Floor Vote: Yeas: 163 Nays: 0 **Amendments:** 

#### **SB 421** DeKalb County Charter Review Commission; create; membership; purpose

Bill Summary: A Bill to create the DeKalb County Charter Review Commission.

**Authored By:** Sen. Gloria Butler (55th) **Rule Applied:** 

House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination -Committee 03-15-2016 Do Pass by Committee

Local Action: Substitute

Floor Vote: Yeas: 163 Navs: 0 **Amendments:** 

#### **SB 423** Newton County; reestablish the board of commissioners; supersede the laws pertaining to governing authority of Newton County

Bill Summary: A Bill to reestablish the Board of Commissioners of Newton County and to supersede the laws pertaining to the governing authority of Newton County.

**Authored By:** Sen. Rick Jeffares (17th) **Rule Applied:** 

Committee House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination -03-16-2016 Do Pass by Committee

Local Action: Substitute

Floor Vote: Yeas: 166 Nays: 0 **Amendments:** 

#### **SB 425** Ringgold, City of; modify compensation and expenses; selection of mayor; memberships of boards, commissions, and authorities

Bill Summary: A Bill to provide a new charter for the City of Ringgold.

Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd) **Authored By:** Rule Applied:

House Committee: Intragovernmental Coordination -Committee 03-15-2016 Do Pass Action:

Floor Vote: Yeas: 163 Nays: 0 **Amendments:** 

## **Next on the Floor from the Committee on Rules**

The Committee on Rules has fixed the calendar for the 39th Legislative Day, Tuesday, March 22, and bills may be called at the pleasure of the Speaker.

## HR 1254 Medicaid care management organizations; cover certain attention deficit hyperactivity disorder medications; encourage

<u>Bill Summary</u>: HR 1254 encourages Medicaid care management organizations to cover certain attention deficit hyperactivity disorder medications.

Authored By:Rep. Mickey Stephens (165th)Rule Applied:Modified-OpenHouse Committee:Health & Human ServicesCommittee03-14-2016 Do PassAction:

## HR 1564 Public Health, Department of; sudden cardiac arrest prevention education courses; encourage

<u>Bill Summary</u>: House Resolution 1564 encourages local boards of education, governing bodies of non-public schools, and governing bodies of charter schools to adopt and implement a sudden cardiac arrest and return to play policy.

Authored By:Rep. David Clark (98th)Rule Applied:Modified-OpenHouse Committee:EducationCommittee<br/>Action:03-09-2016 Do Pass

## SB 18 Technical College System of Georgia; establish policies for granting academic credit for college level learning from military service, work experience

<u>Bill Summary</u>: Senate Bill 18 requires the Technical College System of Georgia to establish policies for granting academic credit to active duty military or veteran students for college-level learning acquired prior to their enrollment from military service. Training and experience from military service must be substantially related to the coursework credit given by the Technical College System of Georgia.

**Authored By:** Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open

**Action:** Substitute

### SB 184 Dogs; provide breed-specific regulation shall be limited to enactment by general law

<u>Bill Summary</u>: Senate Bill 184 prohibits local governments from adopting ordinances that require hunting dogs or show dogs to be spayed or neutered, or from charging a fee to not spay or neuter.

Authored By: Sen. Ellis Black (8th) Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

**House Committee:** Governmental Affairs Committee 03-09-2016 Do Pass by Committee

**Action:** Substitute

### SB 230 'Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act'; enactment

<u>Bill Summary</u>: SB 230 establishes the 'Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act'. In the event of a natural disaster or when an emergency declaration is in effect, this bill allows the governor to utilize volunteer health practitioners who are not residents of this state but are employed by a disaster relief organization providing services in this state. The governor has discretion to define the length, scope, and geographical areas in which these volunteer health practitioners may work. The Department of Public Health is required to maintain a registry system that has the ability to accept applications from volunteer health practitioners and monitor and confirm the licensure and good standing of such applicants.

Authored By:Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd)Rule Applied:Modified-OpenHouse Committee:Health & Human ServicesCommittee03-10-2016 Do PassAction:

## SB 255 Garnishment Proceedings; modernize, reorganize, and provide constitutional protections

Bill Summary: SB 255 enacts a new chapter outlining procedures, deadlines and constitutional protections in conducting garnishment proceedings. The bill requires judgment debtors to be notified that there are certain exemptions under state and federal law that the debtor may be entitled to claim with respect to the garnished property, as well as the procedures to claim the exemptions. The bill stipulates that the garnishment period, the time during which the garnishee shall freeze funds to be submitted to the court with the garnishee's answer, begins on the day of service of the summons. The total garnishment period for a continuing garnishment is 180 days; a financial institution garnishment (other than a continuing garnishment or continuing garnishment for support) is six days; a continuing garnishment for support lasts as long as the defendant is employed by the garnishee and the original arrearage is retired; and all other garnishments for 30 days.

**Authored By:** Sen. Jesse Stone (23rd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured

**House Committee:** Judiciary Committee 03-15-2016 Do Pass by Committee

**Action:** Substitute

## SB 271 Mental Health; provide reasonable standards for providing patients notice; admission to an emergency receiving facility

Bill Summary: SB 271 improves the administrative processes occurring within certain mental health facilities. The bill allows additional time during which an emergency receiving facility must notify a person of his right to petition for a writ of habeas corpus, or file for a protective order in event the person's condition or mental state renders him incapable of fully understanding his right at the time of arrival. Additionally, current law allows courts to order up to six months of involuntary treatment for certain individuals. In the event that continued involuntary treatment is recommended, the recommendation must be reviewed by the Committee for Continued Involuntary Treatment Review. Finally, the bill proposes a process that if within 40 days of the expiration of the authorized treatment period a person is deemed unsafe for discharge, the chief medical officer of a facility may execute a certificate to be filed with a petition for continued involuntary treatment.

Authored By:Sen. Dean Burke (11th)Rule Applied:Modified-OpenHouse Committee:Health & Human ServicesCommittee03-10-2016 Do Pass

Action:

## SB 275 Local Government; governing body shall not adopt policy that has effect of preventing free exercise of the right of freedom of speech by the members

<u>Bill Summary</u>: A local board of education shall not prevent the board members from discussing the policies and actions of the board outside of a board meeting unless it is an "executive session" that as defined in statute is lawfully closed to the public.

**Authored By:** Sen. Michael Williams (27th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured

**House Committee:** Judiciary Committee 03-10-2016 Do Pass by Committee

**Action:** Substitute

## SB 329 Education; expand provisions relating to awarding of high school dipolmas based on certain dual credit coursework

<u>Bill Summary</u>: Senate Bill 329 provides that students who have earned certification to work in an "inneed" industry as determined by the Technical College System of Georgia and have completed college dual-credit coursework are to be awarded a high school diploma. Additionally, SB 329 expands HOPE scholarship eligibility to students meeting these requirements.

Authored By:Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)Rule Applied:Modified-StructuredHouse Committee:EducationCommittee03-09-2016Do Pass

## SB 346 "Environmental Policy Act"; exempt projects for construction/improvement of public roads from environmental effects reports

<u>Bill Summary</u>: Senate Bill 346 amends the 'Environmental Policy Act' so that a project of a department, municipality, county, or authority to construct or improve a public road or airport that does not exceed \$100 million in costs shall not constitute a proposed governmental action which may

significantly or adversely affect the quality of the environment. These projects are not be required to file formal reports with the Environmental Protection Division if an environmental evaluation shows that there would be no significant adverse impact on historical sites or buildings and cultural resources.

**Authored By:** Sen. Brandon Beach (21st) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured

**House Committee:** Transportation Committee 03-14-2016 Do Pass by Committee

Action: Substitute

## SB 383 Public Roads; Roadside Enhancement and Beautification Council; provide for purpose

<u>Bill Summary</u>: Senate Bill 383 removes the five-year waiting period on permits for trimming vegetation around a lawfully erected outdoor advertising sign promoting an agritourism facility as long as the sign comports with local ordinances.

**Authored By:** Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured

**House Committee:** Transportation Committee 03-14-2016 Do Pass by Committee

**Action:** Substitute

## SB 389 Social Services; temporary assistance for needy families; provide for exception to lifetime maximum assistance

<u>Bill Summary</u>: SB 389 requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to file an annual report with the governor, president of the Senate, and speaker of the House of Representatives on the amount of funds expended on the temporary assistance for needy families program (TANF) and the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP). Additionally, the report will include information such as: the number of individuals who are eligible for each program; the number of individuals who receive assistance for each program; and the average amount of time recipients are provided assistance.

This bill reduces the maximum amount of time that a TANF recipient can receive benefits from 48 months to 36 months; however, DHS has the discretion to exempt from this provision a maximum of 20 percent of the average monthly number of families receiving TANF.

Additionally, under the provisions of SB 389, the board of DHS will have the authority to disregard the income and assets of the new spouse of a current TANF recipient for six months when calculating the amount of benefits such recipient will receive. The purpose of this is to encourage the maintenance of two-parent families. The board will also have the authority to develop procedures to determine whether a recipient has cooperated with a work activity requirement.

This bill authorizes DHS to implement a cash diversion program that grants TANF recipients lump sum cash amounts, as well as job referrals, if such recipients forego signing up for the cash assistance program.

The bill redefines the term "sanction" to mean a 100 percent reduction, increased from the current 25 percent reduction, of any cash assistance for a violation of the work participation requirements, child support payment requirements, or any other program terms.

Further, this bill specifies that electronic benefit cards cannot be used to purchase a number of goods and services including alcohol, liquor, cigarettes, tobacco products, bail, etc. The bill also requires recipients who have requested more than four electronic benefit cards in a 12-month span to meet with a fraud investigator before receiving the fifth replacement card.

Finally, SB 389 updates the language in the Code regarding fraud in obtaining public assistance and moves the sections criminalizing fraud in obtaining public assistance to Title 16.

Authored By: Sen. Hunter Hill (6th) Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

**House Committee:** Health & Human Services Committee 03-14-2016 Do Pass by Committee

Action: Substitute

## SB 417 'Georgia Film and Television Trail Act'; create; provide definitions; purpose

Bill Summary: SB 417 creates the 'Georgia Film and Television Trail Act'. This bill enables the Department of Economic Development to plan and develop trails in film site locations throughout the state, which shall be planned, constructed and maintained on a long-term basis. Local government and private entities will be allowed and encouraged to provide for the development and maintenance of the trail as well as trail signs. The bill provides property owners of portions of the trail immunity for acts of others that occur on the trail, but other forms of premises liability are not immunized. The Department of Economic Development is authorized to adopt and promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out this article.

Authored By: Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd) Rule Applied: Modified-Open

**Action:** Substitute

## SB 420 Local Government; require referendum approval prior to the expenditure of public funds; establishment of a fixed guideway transit

<u>Bill Summary</u>: Senate bill 420 requires a referendum vote of the people before the expenditure of public funds on the expansion, maintenance, and operation of a fixed guideway transit in any county that is a mass transit regional system participant.

Authored By:Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)Rule Applied:Modified-StructuredHouse Committee:TransportationCommittee03-14-2016Do Pass

Action:

## **Committee Actions**

Bills passing committees are reported to the Clerk's Office and are placed on the General Calendar.

## **Governmental Affairs Committee**

## SB 145 Board of Community Health; provide that one member of the board is member of the state health benefit plan

<u>Bill Summary</u>: Senate Bill 145 allows for manufacturers of low tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) oil to ship low THC oil to a person properly registered with the Department of Public Health in Georgia. HB 722 expands the list of conditions for which low THC oil can be administered by including autism, epidermolysis bullosa, HIV, peripheral neuropathy, tourette's syndrome, terminal illness, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Moreover, HB 722 includes low THC oil into the code regarding driving under the influence.

**Authored By:** Sen. Joshua McKoon (29th)

**House** Governmental Affairs **Committee** 03-16-2016 Do Pass by Committee

Committee: Action: Substitute

## SB 199 Elections; provide for a definition; prohibit certain activities within close proximity to polling places

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 199 establishes a definition for "campaign material" and prevents it from being distributed or displayed within the area of a voting precinct restricted from campaigning activities. Campaign material is defined as any newspaper, booklet, pamphlet, card, sign, paraphernalia, or any other written or printed matter referring to a candidate whose name appears on the ballot in a primary or election, or a political party or body which has a nominee or nominees on the ballot in a primary or election.

It provides for the reopening of qualifications in municipal elections if someone fails to qualify during the regular qualifying period. Under current law, it would require the calling of a special election.

It allows local governments, by local act of the General Assembly, to establish residency requirements for qualification purposes of local elections.

**Authored By:** Sen. Rick Jeffares (17th)

**House** Governmental Affairs **Committee** 03-16-2016 Do Pass by Committee

Committee: Action: Substitute

### SB 378 DeKalb County; change the composition of the governing authority

<u>Bill Summary</u>: Senate Bill 378 changes the county governance structure of DeKalb County. It eliminates the Chief Executive Officer position and replaces it with a Chairman of the Commission and a full-time county manager. It provides that the chairman may only vote to break a tie.

The provisions of the new DeKalb County Commission's makeup are dependent on the passage of a ballot question to be placed on a referendum in the November 2016 general election. Upon passage of the referendum, the provisions will begin on January 1, 2019. The terms of office going forward will be staggered and the bill establishes that the terms of all commissioners in office elected in the 2016 general election will end on December 31, 2018. A special election will be held to fill the seats on the commission and the chairperson in the November, 2018 general election. Those individuals elected to represent Commission Districts 2, 4, and 6 shall serve terms of office beginning on January 1, 2019, and end on December 31, 2020. The individuals elected to represent Commission Districts 1, 3, 5, and 7 and the chairperson will serve terms of office beginning on January 1, 2019, and end on December 31, 2022.

Finally, the bill establishes the salaries of the commission members. The commission chair's salary

is set at \$153,000; the district commissioner's salary is set at \$40,000, and the county manager's salary is set by the commission.

**Authored By:** Sen. Fran Millar (40th)

**House** Governmental Affairs **Committee** 03-16-2016 Do Pass by Committee

Committee: Action: Substitute

## **Health & Human Services Committee**

## SB 337 Medical Assistance; require Department of Human Services to provide certain dependents of military service member; eligibility

<u>Bill Summary</u>: SB 337 provides a qualified dependent of an active duty military service member, maintaining their legal residence in Georgia, the right to apply for and retain earned priority for medical assistance or developmental disability services despite a temporary change of residence outside of the state due to the service member's military.

**Authored By:** Sen. Larry Walker III (20th)

**House** Health & Human Services **Committee** 03-16-2016 Do Pass by Committee

Committee: Action: Substitute

## **Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee**

## SB 423 Newton County; reestablish the board of commissioners; supersede the laws pertaining to governing authority of Newton County

<u>Bill Summary</u>: A Bill to reestablish the Board of Commissioners of Newton County and to supersede the laws pertaining to the governing authority of Newton County.

**Authored By:** Sen. Rick Jeffares (17th)

House Intragovernmental Coordination - Committee 03-16-2016 Do Pass by Committee

Committee: Local Action: Substitute

## **Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee**

## SB 332 Public Order and Safety; clarify the judges and justices who are exempt; various weapon carry laws and prohibitions

<u>Bill Summary</u>: Senate Bill 332 clarifies which judges are exempt from weapon carry prohibitions in Georgia Code. Those judges are: federal judges; justices of the Supreme Court; judges of the Court of Appeals; judges of superior, state, probate, juvenile, and magistrate courts; full-time judges of municipal and city courts; permanent part-time judges of municipal and city courts, and administrative law judges.

Additionally, the legislation requires the judge of the probate court to issue personal identification cards to any judge or justice given exemption to carry prohibitions when applying to the judge of the probate court. The Council of Probate Court Judges of Georgia will set a fee which the probate judge shall collect from the judge or justice applying for such identification card.

**Authored By:** Sen. John Kennedy (18th)

House Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee 03-16-2016 Do Pass by Committee

Committee: Action: Substitute

## **Regulated Industries Committee**

### SB 319 Professional Counseling; revise the definition

<u>Bill Summary</u>: SB 319 clarifies and allows for professional counselors to diagnose emotional and mental problems or conditions. In addition, the bill requires the board which governs professional counselors to develop curriculum of continuing education for licensed practitioners relating to diagnosing individuals with mental illness, developmental disabilities, or substance abuse, and the

board shall retain its full authority to determine education, experience, and training required of its licensees. Moreover, SB 319 clarifies psychological testing, and that performing such psychological testing is only within the scope of practice of psychologists.

**Authored By:** Sen. Lester Jackson (2nd)

**House** Regulated Industries **Committee** 03-16-2016 Do Pass by Committee

Committee: Action: Substitute

## SB 388 Bona Fide Coin Operated Amusement Machine; prohibit the removal of a sticker without authorization

Bill Summary: SB 388 revises the Code regarding bona fide coin operated amusement machines. The bill allows for a Class A machine to distribute a non-cash redemption award on a per play basis not to exceed \$20. The gift certificate or gift card is an electronic payment device issued for a specific amount which: may not be increased in value or reloaded; is loaded on a prepaid basis; cannot be exchanged for cash, and is available for sale on the premises. The card is also permitted to be used for in-store redemption. Class A licenses can be renewed for \$125 and \$1,000 for a Class B license. Moreover, the bill provides that when a master licensee receives notice of a potential revocation of said license, the master licensee shall be prohibited from selling or transferring that license to any other person. Removing or defacing a permit sticker located upon an amusement machine is a misdemeanor, and replacement stickers for each Class A machine is \$25 and \$125 for Class B machines. In addition, the Georgia Lottery Corporation shall have jurisdiction relating in any way to coin operated amusement machines.

**Authored By:** Sen. David Lucas (26th)

**House** Regulated Industries **Committee** 03-16-2016 Do Pass by Committee

Committee: Action: Substitute

## **Transportation Committee**

### SR 863 Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bridge; Union County; dedicate

<u>Bill Summary</u>: The annual Senate road/bridge dedication package includes the following dedications from the Senate and the House:

#### PART I

Senate Resolution 863 dedicates the bridge on Highway 129 over Ivy Log Creek in Blairsville as the "Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bridge." (Steve Gooch)

### **PART II**

Senate Resolution 756 dedicates Highway 114 from Lyerly, Georgia to the Alabama State Line to Major General William "Bill" Gayler and Brigadier General John "Pete" P. Johnson. (Jeff Mullis)

#### **PART III**

Senate Resolution 847 dedicates the intersection of U.S. Highway 41 and Georgia Highway 151 in Catoosa County as the "L. Wesley Smith Memorial Intersection." (Jeff Mullis)

### **PART IV**

Senate Resolution 849 dedicates US 278/Ponce de Leon Avenue from the intersection of Piedmont Avenue to the intersection of State Route 10/Freedom Parkway in Fulton County as the "Walt Frazier Highway." (Donzella James)

#### PART V

Senate Resolution 893 dedicates the intersection of Battlefield Parkway and Highway 41 in Catoosa County as the "Private Lonnie S. Rhinehart Memorial Intersection." (Jeff Mullis)

#### PART VI

Senate Resolution 984 dedicates the intersection of Battlefield Parkway and Lakeshore Drive in Catoosa County as the "U.S. Navy Petty Officer Randall Smith Memorial Intersection." (Jeff Mullis)

#### **PART VII**

Senate Resolution 1039 dedicates the intersection of Cove Road and Camp Road in Walker County as the "PFC Charles W. Bradshaw Memorial Intersection. (Jeff Mullis)

### PART VIII

Senate Resolution 925 dedicates the bridge on State Route 8/State Route 10 over Lullwater Creek in DeKalb County as the "Michael Polak Bridge." (Steve Henson)

#### **PART IX**

Senate Resolution 956 dedicates the portion of Georgia 255 North from Georgia 17 to Covered Bridge Road, the portion of Georgia 17 from Joe Brown Pike Bridge to Helen Highway, and the portion of Helen Highway from Dukes Creek Crossing to 7300 Helen Highway in White County as the Sautee Nacoochee Arts and Heritage District. (Steve Gooch)

#### PART X

Senate Resolution 978 dedicates the intersection of U.S. 29/State Route 8/General Daniels Avenue and State Route 98/Comer Road in Madison County as the Sheriff Dewey G. Seagraves Intersection. (Frank Ginn)

#### PART XI

House Resolution 1399 dedicates the portion of State Route 17 from the intersection with Interstate 85 to the intersection with Interstate 985 in Stephens, Franklin, and Habersham counties as the Currahee Parkway. (Dan Gasaway)

#### **PART XII**

House Resolution 1430 dedicates the intersection of U.S. Highway 80/State Route 22 and Drane Matthews Road/George Smith Road in Talbot County as the Trooper Bobby Mathis Memorial Intersection. (Debbie Buckner)

#### PART XIII

House Resolution 1460 dedicates the portion of State Route 101 from the intersection with State Route 120/Buchanan Highway north to the Paulding County line as the Mt. Olivet Missionary Baptist Church Highway. (Kimberly Alexander)

#### **PART XIV**

House Resolution 1486 dedicates the bridge on Interstate 75 at the University Avenue exit in Fulton County as the Lovett Stovall Bridge. (Valencia Stovall)

#### PART XV

House Resolution 1487 dedicates the portion of State Route 224 from the intersection with State Route 90/Spalding Road to the intersection with East Railroad Street in Macon County as the Walter M. Mathews, Jr., Memorial Highway. (Patty Bentley)

#### PART XVI

House Resolution 1526 dedicates the interchange at the State Route 40 and Interstate 95 exit in Camden County as the Colquitt George "C.G." Russell Memorial Interchange. (Jason Spencer)

### PART XVII

House Resolution 1528 dedicates the bridge on Highway 79 over Fishing Creek in Lincoln County as the Jesse Rouse Memorial Bridge. (Tom McCall)

#### **PART XVIII**

House Resolution 1554 dedicates the portion of State Route 10/U.S.78 from the intersection of State Route 383 to the interchange of State Route 415 in Richmond County as the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Parkway. (Barbara Sims)

#### PART XIX

House Resolution 1608 dedicates the portion of State Route 38 Connector/General Screven Way from U.S. Highway 84/State Route 38/State Route 196 to the gates of Fort Stewart Military Base in Liberty County as the Carl Dykes Memorial Way. (Al Williams)

### PART XX

House Resolution 1655 dedicates the portion of U.S. Highway 84/State Route 38 from mile post 8.30 to mile post 8.55 in Liberty County as McLarry's Curve. (Al Williams)

#### PART XXI

House Resolution 1680 dedicates the portion of U.S. Highway 22/State Route 31 from the intersection of State Route 11 and State Route 31 in Lakeland to the intersection of State Route 7 and State Route 31 in Valdosta in Lowndes County as the James Slaton "Jay" Shaw Memorial Highway. (Amy Carter)

#### **PART XXII**

House Resolution 1683 dedicates the bridge on State Route 135/S. Peterson Street at the Alapaha River Overflow, 3 miles south of Willacoochee, Georgia, at mile 0.27 in Atkinson County is dedicated as the Robert Keith Futch Memorial Bridge. (Jason Shaw)

#### **PART XXIII**

House Resolution 1685 dedicates the portion of U.S. 84/S.R. 38/Victory Drive in Waycross, Georgia, from the intersection with U.S. 1/U.S. 23/U.S. 82/U.S. 84/S.R. 4/S.R. 38/S.R. 52/S. Georgia Parkway to the intersection with Wadley Road and Glenmore Avenue in Ware County as the Dr. Robert T. Bussey Parkway. (Jason Shaw)

#### PART XXIV

House Resolution 1696 dedicates the intersection of Battlefield Parkway and Lakeshore Drive in Catoosa County as the U.S. Navy Petty Officer Randall Smith Memorial Intersection. (Tom Weldon)

#### PART XXV

House Resolution 1720 dedicates the portion of U.S. 441/U.S. 23/S.R. 15 from the southern city limits of Mountain City northward to the boundary line between Georgia and North Carolina as the Frank Cathey Memorial Highway. (Christian Coomer)

**Authored By:** Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)

**House** Transportation **Committee** 03-16-2016 Do Pass by Committee

Committee: Action: Substitute

### SR 892 Governor Sonny Perdue Highway; Dooley County; dedicate

Bill Summary: SR 892 includes the following dedications:

Senate Resolution 892 dedicates Interstate 75 in Houston County from the Peach County line to the Dooley County line as the Governor Sonny Perdue Highway. (Larry Walker, III)

House Resolution 1682 dedicates the bridge on GA 21/GA 421/GA 25/Interstate 516 at the intersection of State Route 25 and State Route 26 Connector/Burnsed Blvd. in Chatham County as the Bob Bryant Memorial Bridge. (Christian Coomer)

**Authored By:** Sen. Larry Walker III (20th)

**House** Transportation **Committee** 03-16-2016 Do Pass by Committee

Committee: Action: Substitute

Committee Meeting Schedule

This meeting schedule is up to date at the time of this report, but meeting dates and times are subject to change.

To keep up with the latest schedule, please visit <a href="www.house.ga.gov">www.house.ga.gov</a> and click on <a href="meetings Notices">Meetings Notices</a>.

NO COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE CURRENTLY SCHEDULED AT THIS TIME